
Introduction

Effective July 2, 2001, the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota is offering a litigation alternative called **Expedited Trials**. This program offers an alternative to traditional case processing by allowing for a shorter time period from filing to disposition. Discovery and motion practice will be sharply limited as a means to reduce time and expense. All parties and their attorneys are encouraged to use this new program for their civil cases.

The applicable rules for parties who elect this process are the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Local Rules for the District of Minnesota and the Rules for Expedited Trials of the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota.

Need more information?

Call the Division Manager in any of our clerk's offices:

Mpls: 612-664-5000
St. Paul: 651-848-1100
Duluth: 218-529-3500

Or visit

www.mnd.uscourts.gov

Key Elements

The following key elements of the Expedited Trials Program are intended only as an overview. Please consult the rules for a detailed description of the program and the applicable rules and limitations.

Participation

- Parties may have a pre-existing agreement.
- Parties may agree to participate after the action is commenced.
- The agreement shall be in writing and attached to the Complaint or filed promptly after agreement is reached.

Initial Disclosures

- Served with Complaint and Answer or Counterclaim (pre-existing agreement).
- Made within 5 days of the date of the filing of the Expedited Trials agreement.

Pretrial Conference

- Held within 30 days of the date the Complaint is served.
- Upon request, parties may appear by telephone.

Pretrial Order

- Issued at the Pretrial Conference.
- Exchange Fed. R. Civ. P. Rule 26 (a) (1) (B) documents within 30 days of the Pretrial Conference.
- All discovery completed within 120 days of the Pretrial Conference.

Discovery and Testimony Limits

- 10 interrogatories
- 5 document requests
- 1 expert witness
- 5 requests for admission
- 2 depositions

Non-dispositive Motions

- Parties must apply for permission to file by telephone to the Magistrate Judge.
- If permission granted, motion and response are limited to two pages.

Dispositive Motions

- Parties must apply for permission to file in writing to the District Judge.
- If permission granted, a prompt briefing schedule and memoranda limits will be set by the District Judge.

Trial Date

- Called for trial no later than 6 months after the Pretrial Conference.
- If consent to trial by Magistrate Judge, the trial will be held on date certain within 120 days of the Pretrial Conference.

Trial

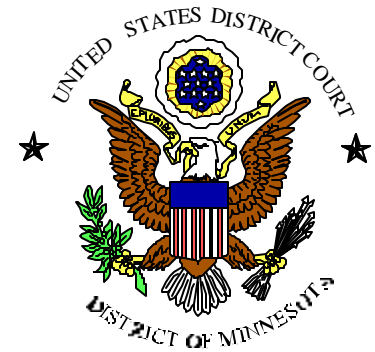
- Each side will have eight hours of trial time.

Judgment

- Order for Judgment entered within 30 days after the matter is submitted.
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Expedited Trials

A voluntary civil litigation
alternative offered by the
District of Minnesota



Expedited Trials



Richard D. Sletten
Clerk of Court

United States District Court
District of Minnesota
